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MILES & STOCKBRIDGE P.C.

To Ex. Tang

Fax no. 703.746.6231

Phone no. 703.305.4866

From Jason H. Vick

Phone no. 703-610-8651

Date January 16, 2004

Time 9:21 AM

File no. 09/582,755

Pages including cover 1

Message Supplemental Proposed Interview Agenda:

1. Review how the independent claims are directed toward the controlling of a function by commands specific to the respective software products where an abstract method is defined in an abstract class for the function. A driver implements the abstract method in a machine and executes one of the specific commands with options equivalent to the options of the common command.

2. After carefully reviewing the Office Action the Applicant is concerned that while Slaughter discusses an "abstract class" and an "abstract method" on col. 6, Applicant is concerned that Slaughter is using these terms in relation to a different function and can find no teaching of the "options" concepts recited in the independent claims. Furthermore, while Golshani, on col. 2 discusses a "verbose mode," Applicant is unclear as to how this passage is being interpreted to render obvious the claim language of "a union, in the logical sense, of all the options of a specific command."

Accordingly, in order to advance prosecution and to ensure that Applicant understands the Examiner's interpretation of the references so a more thorough and complete response can be filed, a brief Personal Interview is requested.
Jason Vick

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For Record Only

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To Ex. Tang

Fax no. 703.746.6231 Phone no. 703.305.4866

From Jason H. Vick Phone no. 703-610-8651

Date January 13, 2004 Time 4:02 PM

File no. 09/582,755 Pages including cover 1

Message Proposed Interview Agenda:

1. Discuss background of Invention
2. Discuss operation of exemplary embodiment of Invention
3. Highlight specific features of independent claims
4. Contrast these features with disclosure of references and in particular distinguish Applicant's method of controlling a function comprising defining in an abstract class an abstract method and defining a common command
5. Reviewing operation of cited references and further distinguishing from claims

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